**アニメ監督・大地丙太郎さん　ホノルルマラソンを完走**

Anime Director Daichi Akitarou to Run Honolulu Marathon.

１９９８年からＮＨＫ教育などで放映されている人気アニメ「おじゃる丸」。千年前の「ヘイアンチョウ」から現代の「月光町」にやってきた５歳の主人 公が、子鬼トリオなどと一緒に騒動を起こす。キャラクターたちは時折大げさな身ぶりをするが、これは監督の大地さんが大好きな赤塚不二夫作品の影響を受け ている証拠だという。

Ojaru-maru, a popular anime show, has been televised by NHK Educational Channel and other places since 1998. The 5-year-old protagonist, who came from “Heian-town” of 1000 years ago to “Moonbeam-town” of modern times, teams up with a trio of ogres and other hooligans to cause trouble. The grandiose gestures sometimes made by the characters is evidence of the influence of the works of Akatsuka Fujio, who Daichi –san strongly admires.

千本を超える全作品の監督を務めてきた大地さんのマイブームは「運動」だ。２０１０年末には初のフルマラソン「ホノルルマラソン」に参加。無事７時間２２分で完走した。

Daichi-san, who has been served as a director in more than 1000 works, has a new obsession: exercise. Near the end of 2010, he participated in his first full marathon, the Honolulu marathon. He peacefully completed the race with a time of 7:22.

　「不規則」「不摂生」「不健康」――。アニメ製作現場を象徴するキーワードだ。実は「子どもの頃、運動は大嫌いだった」こともあり、大地さんもそ んな文化にどっぷりつかっていた。身長１７４センチで８９キロまで太った。「徹夜が続くと、ラーメンとかコンビニのサンドイッチとかばかり食べていまし た」

 “Unsteady!” “Out of shape!” “Unhealthy.” These are the keywords that symbolize the anime production office. In fact, there are some children who have always disliked exercise, and Daichi-san is definitely part of that culture. He fattened up to the point of having 89 kilos on his 174 centimeter frame. “During an all-nighter, I would eat only ramen or sandwiches from the convenience store.”

　転機は５年ほど前。舞台を演出した時に殺陣を習い始め、週１回３時間の稽古でみるみる体重が減った。「体重が落ちると、ファッションとか行動が明るくなるんです」。食事のカロリーや栄養の配分も考えるようになり、最大１５キロの減量に成功。今も７６キロを保つ。

The turning point came about five years ago. He began to practice swordfighting for a play he was producing, and the weekly three-hour practice session cause his weight to drop, little-by-little. “As my weight dropped, my fashion and behavior got brighter.” He started to think about the calories and nutritional content of his food, and finally succeeded in losing 15 kilograms. Currently he is holding steady at 76 kilos.

　今年もフルマラソン参加を目指す大地さん。「おじゃる丸もあと５年は監督を続けたいですね」。本業の長距離走（ロングラン）も続けていくつもりだ。

Daichi-san is aiming to do another full marathon again this year. “I want to keep directing Ojaru-maru for another five years, you know?” He also plans to keep focused on his main workout of long distance running.